

Message Text

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ACTION OC-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CCO-00 SY-05 FBO-02 A-01 OCL-00

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R 111101Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0021

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ACOM, ASEC

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY GENERATOR REMOVAL

REFS: A. SOFIA 0173; B. LONDON OM DATED 20 MAY 1974;

C. DEPARTMENT A-8967; D. SOFIA 0240;

E. DEPARTMENT OM DATED 13 JUNE 1975

1. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL PROBLEM WITH EMERGENCY GENERATOR. LENGTH OF SMALL GAUGE EXHAUST PIPE CAUSES EXHAUST TO BACK UP, GENERATOR THEN CHOKES AND CUTS OFF. REF B RECOMMENDED RELOCATION OF GENERATOR TO SECOND FLOOR (U.S.) BALCONY AT REAR OF EMBASSY, AND REF C WAS SENT TO EMBASSY ACCOMPANIED BY DRAWING AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR PROJECT. IN THE MEANTIME A/C CHILLER UNIT WAS INSTALLED ON SAME BALCONY RECOMMENDED FOR GENERATOR RELOCATION. DEPARTMENT WAS NOTIFIED REF D, AND EMBASSY REQUESTED REVISION OF PLANS, AS A/C CHILLER UNIT WAS NOT A FACTOR IN ORIGINAL PLAN. HOWEVER, SEABEES FROM BUCHAREST WHO RECENTLY VISITED EMBASSY EXPRESSED EXTREME SKEPTICISM AT FEASIBILITY OF PLACING GENERATOR NEXT TO A/C CHILLER UNIT ON BALCONY.

2. IN VIEW SEABEES' CONCERN, EMBASSY REQUESTED THAT CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE BUREAU FOR SERVICES TO THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS RE-EXAMINE SITE. WHEN HE DID HIS SKEPTICISM EXCEEDED THAT OF SEABEES. IN FACT THE BUREAU HAS TERMED THE PROJECT UNFEASIBLE AND HAS REFUSED APPROVAL IN WRITING FOR THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOLLOWING REASONS:

A. BALCONY IS TOO SMALL TO ACCOMMODATE BOTH THE A/C CHILLER UNIT AND THE GENERATOR. EVEN IF ONE MANAGED TO SET GENERATOR IN PLACE, THERE WOULD BE NO ROOM FOR MAINTENANCE, AND A WALL OF ANY TYPE SEPARATING THEM WOULD ONLY SERVE TO FURTHER DIMINISH SPACE;

B. THE VIBRATION CAUSED BY THE GENERATOR IN OPERATION MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT THE ELEVATOR, THE SHAFT OF WHICH RUNS BESIDE THE WALL NEAREST WHERE THE GENERATOR WOULD BE.

3. EMBASSY FEELS EXHAUST PROBLEM CAN NOW BE SOLVED BY SHORTENING OF EXHAUST PIPE. IT CAN BE CUT OFF AT AIR SHAFT, SINCE AIR SHAFT IS NOW PROTECTED BY A/C UNIT WHICH IS MOUNTED OVER IT. ALSO, MORE VENTILATION CAN BE PROVIDED IN THE ROOM PRESENTLY HOUSING THE GENERATOR BY CUTTING A HOLE IN THE ENTRANCE DOOR AND MOUNTING AN IRON GRILL IN PLACE. A FAN CAN BE USED TO CREATE A DRAFT AND COOL AREA.

4. IF DEPARTMENT APPROVES WE INTEND TO TAKE STEPS OUTLINED IN PARA 3. WILL ADVISE IF ASSISTANCE OF SEABEES OR OTHERS NEEDED.
HERZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SOFIA01663
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750276-0860
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750863/aaaaceam.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OC
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 SOFIA 173
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 SEP 2003 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EMERGENCY GENERATOR REMOVAL
TAGS: ACOM, ASEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006